The key to integrated risk management

Data analytics can help agencies gain real-time risk visibility

**THE USE OF** data analytics is enabling agencies to automate the process of turning raw data from multiple sources into the valuable, real-time technical evidence needed to validate the implementation and effectiveness of security controls.

Furthermore, if agencies adopt a common semantic approach to data tagging — for example, by adopting a standards-based model derived from the security controls in the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s Special Publication 800-53 — they enable a number of cybersecurity capabilities across their organizations. Agencies can automate consistent reporting against multiple mandates and frameworks, realize and enable real-time continuous monitoring and ongoing assessment of controls, perform threat hunting and insider-threat detection, and conduct granular-level incident investigations.

In other words, automation on a flexible, adaptive platform enables agencies to align real-time control monitoring and risk management with operational security, which is a huge leap forward. Now analysts can make risk decisions at machine speed, with real-time adaptive responses that can be orchestrated among cyber defense tools, risk management applications and the IT infrastructure. Automating and standardizing compliance in this way will make more efficient use of valuable resources to help agencies achieve the ultimate goal of stronger security.

By combining data into a single dashboard, risk management professionals can work with the same information that their cyber defense colleagues have, thereby enabling agile and adaptive risk mitigation and response by both teams and improving agencies’ true cybersecurity posture.

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